

7E19

Poland: Update

Polish media claim police ^{have} thwarted
the student demonstration in Warsaw.
Embassy officers on the ground report
security forces surrounding the area and
preventing people from entering.

TOP SECRET [REDACTED]

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A Soviet spokesman has told a press conference in Geneva that Moscow had not pressed the Poles, but that he viewed martial law as a "reassuring action." Vadim Zagladin, an influential Soviet party official, also claimed that the suspension of union activities was only temporary, but did not specifically mention Solidarity. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] some Polish farmers allegedly have begun slaughtering their livestock and hiding their produce, forcing Polish authorities to place the food distribution system under army control. The regime will stretch thin the resources and public credibility of the army if it resorts to forced requisitioning. The authorities, however, will risk the anger of the farmers to satisfy the food needs of the urban population. [REDACTED]

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Polish military forces reportedly are now being used along with police to quell strikes and other civil disturbances in major Polish cities. [REDACTED]

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